

HAPPENINGS at the SAB

...ensuring a solid technical basis for environmental protection

Volume 8 Number 7

July 2003

EDITORIAL

Opportunities for Public Participation in the Activities of the EPA Science Advisory Board

It is part of the statutory requirements, as well as the policy of the SAB Staff Office, to provide opportunities for public input. For example, the public has the opportunity to participate in the process in which new panels are formed by suggesting the names of qualified candidates for consideration, the public may also provide either written or oral comments to a committee or panel as part of the overall review process, and finally, there are opportunities to provide comment on the processes by which the SAB Staff Office manages the work of these Federal advisory committees. Highlighted in this editorial are two important upcoming events that will provide further opportunity for public input.

First, a Federal Register notice will be issued this month that will call for nominations from the interested public for non-Federal experts to fill general membership vacancies on the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee, the Advisory Council on Clean Air Act Compliance Analysis, the SAB Executive Committee, and the various standing committees of the SAB. Interested members of the public may nominate qualified candidates to serve on one or more of the above groups. This process is one of several used by the SAB Staff Office in developing candidates for consideration by the EPA Administrator.

Second, a separate Federal Register notice will be issued this month in which the Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is inviting members of the public to attend a public meeting, scheduled for August 5 in the Washington DC Metro area, as part of its continued effort to be more effective in obtaining public input in the SAB activities. The SAB Staff Office is also announcing a three-week public comment period on a proposal to reorganize the SAB.

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We hope that you take advantage of these opportunities to increase public participation in the work of these Federal advisory committees.

Vanessa T. Vu
Director, SAB Staff Office

TENTATIVE SAB MEETING CALENDAR FOR JULY & AUGUST

Several of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) meetings noted below have been announced in the Federal Register (FR), together with additional background information. Readers can automatically receive e-mailed copies of FR Notices by subscribing to the SAB Listserv; see Section Updates below.

If a series of meetings is anticipated, the number of the meeting in the series is indicated in parentheses; e.g., "(#2)".

JULY



1F

Committee: Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC)
Topic(s): National Ambient Air Monitoring Strategy
Location: Teleconference
Chair: *Dr. Philip Hopke, Clarkson University*
DFO: *Mr. Fred Butterfield*
Email: butterfield.fred@epa.gov

8-9

Committee: Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC)
Topic(s): National Ambient Air Monitoring Strategy
Location: Research Triangle Park, NC
Chair: *Dr. Philip Hopke, Clarkson University*
DFO: *Mr. Fred Butterfield*
Email: butterfield.fred@epa.gov

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11F

Committee: Advisory Council on Clean Air Compliance's Air Quality Modeling Subcommittee
Topic(s): Clean Air Act Section 812 Cost and Benefits Draft Report to Congress
Location: Ariel Rios North, Room 6013, Teleconference
Chair: Dr. David Allen, University of Texas
DFO: Dr. Angela Nugent
Email: nugent.angela@epa.gov

11F

Committee: Advisory Council on Clean Air Compliance's Special Council Panel for the Review of the Third 812 Analysis
Topic(s): EPA's Second Prospective Analysis Benefits and Costs of the Clean Air Act 1990-2020
Location: Ariel Rios North, Room 6013, Teleconference
Chair: Dr. Trudy Cameron, University of Oregon
DFO: Dr. Angela Nugent
Email: nugent.angela@epa.gov

15F

Committee: Advisory Council on Clean Air Compliance's Special Council Panel for the Review of the Third 812 Analysis
Topic(s): Clean Air Act Section 812 Cost and Benefits Draft Report to Congress
Location: Ariel Rios North, Room 6013, Teleconference
Chair: Dr. Trudy Cameron, University of Oregon
DFO: Dr. Angela Nugent
Email: nugent.angela@epa.gov

Happenings at the Science Advisory Board

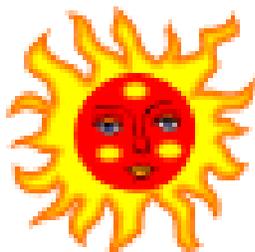
16-17

Committee: Executive Committee (EC)
Topic(s): Use of Science in Regional Decision-making; discussion of proposed FY 2004 projects, SAB reorganization, and other topics
Location: EPA Region 5, Chicago, IL
Chair: *Dr. William Glaze, Oregon Health and Science University*
DFO: *Mr. A. Robert Flaak*
Email: flaak.robert@epa.gov

23-24

Committee: Air Toxics Multi-Year Plan and Research Strategy Plan
Topic(s): Review of the Air Toxics Multi-Year Plan and Research Strategy
Location: Research Triangle Park, NC
Chair: *Dr. Fred Miller, CIIT Centers for Health Research*
DFO: *Dr. James Rowe*
Email: rowe.james@epa.gov

AUGUST



5F

Committee: Environmental Health Committee's Supplemental Guidance for Assessing Cancer Susceptibility for Early-Life Review Panel
Topic(s): Review of the Agency's Interim Guidance on Children's Cancer Risk
Location: Teleconference, TBD
Chair: *Dr. Henry Anderson, Wisconsin Division of Public Health*
DFO: *Dr. Suhair "Sue" Shallal*
Email: shallal.sue@epa.gov

Happenings at the Science Advisory Board

- 5-7** Committee: Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards Subcommittee
- Topic(s): To recommend to the Assistant Administrator of the Office of Research and Development (ORD) the recipients of the Agency's 2002 Scientific and Technological Achievement Cash Awards
- Location: Closed Meeting
- Chair: Dr. Debora Cory-Slechta, University of Rochester
- DFO: Ms. Kathleen White
- Email: white.kathleen@epa.gov
-
- 5** Committee: Public Non-FACA Meeting
- Topic(s): Public session to discuss the proposal for reorganizing the Science Advisory Board and public involvement in EPA Science Advisory Board Activities
- Location: JW Marriott, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue
- SAB Staff:* *Mr. Fred Butterfield and Dr. Angela Nugent*
- Email:* butterfield.fred@epa.gov or nugent.angela@epa.gov
-
- 25-27** Committee: Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee's Particulate Matter Review Panel
- Topic(s): Air Quality Criteria Document for Particulate Matter
- Location: Research Triangle Park, NC
- Chair:* *Dr. Philip Hopke, Clarkson University*
- DFO:* *Mr. Fred Butterfield*
- Email:* butterfield.fred@epa.gov

Happenings at the Science Advisory Board

27-29

Committee: Health Effects Subcommittee of the Advisory Council on Clean Air Compliance Analysis
Topic(s): Clean Air Act Section 812 Cost and Benefits Draft Report to Congress
Location: Washington, DC
Chair: *Dr. Bart Ostro, California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment*
DFO: *Dr. Angela Nugent*
Email: nugent.angela@epa.gov

To View Calendar of Future Meetings Click Here
Or

Go to the SAB website www.epa.gov/sab/mtgcal.htm

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES IN JUNE



On June 10, the Executive Committee met via public teleconference to discuss FY2004 projects proposals submitted by standing committees of the SAB. At the SAB's next meeting on July 16-17, 2003, these self-proposed projects along with Agency submitted proposals, will be considered for inclusion in the SAB FY2004 Operating Plan. This Operating Plan will be available in October 2003. Prior to the July 16-17 meeting, information concerning the self-proposed and Agency proposed projects will be available on the SAB website at: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/ecpubmtg071603.html>. For further information, please

contact Mr. Robert Flaak, Designated Federal Official at flaak.robert@epa.gov.

On June 12, 2003, the Air Quality Modeling Subcommittee of the Advisory Council on Clean Air Compliance Analysis met in Alexandria, Virginia. Chaired by Dr. David Allen, the Subcommittee met to receive briefings and conduct preliminary discussions of major topics related to the approach to air quality modeling described in the document "Benefits and Costs of the Clean Air Act 1990-2020: Revised Analytical Plan for EPA's Second Prospective Analysis"; and to decide a process for writing a report documenting AQMS advice that would be presented to the Advisory Council on Clean Air Compliance Analysis at its next planned meeting.

The Subcommittee focused primarily on issues related to the choice of emissions inventories to be used to support 5 analytical scenarios for the Second Prospective Analysis.

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Subcommittee members agreed to provide draft advice on four questions related to emissions for the Council to review at its July 15, 2003 teleconference, because analytical work related to emissions is fundamental to the Analysis and the Agency has requested early advice from the Subcommittee on the topic.

On June 17-18, the Environmental Engineering Committee (EEC) provided a consultation on improving leach testing of waste for the Office of Solid Waste. Dr. David Dzombak of Carnegie-Mellon University led the consultation. Dr. David Kosson from Vanderbilt University spoke on Current Extramural Research and Dr. Taylor Eimghy from the University of New Hampshire on Leach Testing in Environmental Assessment of the Reuse of Materials.

A Commentary does not seek consensus advice nor produce a report. Various individuals stated that they were pleased with the Framework, thought it was scientifically sound, responded to the EEC's 1999 Commentary, and had a lot of respect for what was presented, and cautioned that these comments did not constitute a detailed review. Individual members thought the Office of Solid Waste (OSW) might give more attention to defining their objective possibly identifying a short list of target problems where the modest amounts of research funding available could make a difference in practice.

The Committee's agenda included two other topics. Mr. Robert Springer, Director of the OSW briefed the Committee on Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response's

(OSWER) Resource Conservation Challenge which has grown from a project relating to recycling with goals specific to OSWER and RCRA into a broader and largely voluntary program emphasizing materials management, energy, priority chemicals. In addition, the Committee discussed its future in light of the SAB's plans for reorganization.

On June 20, the Supplemental Guidance for Assessing Cancer Susceptibility from Early-life Exposure to Carcinogens (SGACS) Review Panel, which is made up of members of the Science Advisory Board, Science Advisory Panel and Children Health Protection Advisory Committee, met via teleconference to discuss their draft report. Revisions were discussed and second teleconference has been scheduled for August 5, 2003. The Panel hopes to finalize their report and transmittal letter during the August teleconference and send the report for approval to the Executive Committee.

STATUS OF FORMATION OF SAB PANELS

The Board has developed a revised Panel Formation process for the recruitment of ad-hoc review panels. For the latest detailed information, please visit our website, www.epa.gov/sab/panels/paneltopics.html.

REPORTS UNDERDEVELOPMENT



CASAC

- 1) Ozone Air Quality Criteria Document Development Plan

EHC

- 2) Human Health Research Strategy

RAC

- 3) Review of the Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Protocols (MARLAP) Manual

COMPUTER NEWS



(1) SAB Website is within the EPA Home Page. You are invited to visit the SAB Website at URL: <http://www.epa.gov/sab>

The site offers such features as:

- (a) Full-text reports for FY1994-FY2003
- (b) Background information about the structure, function, and membership of the SAB
- (c) A projected calendar of SAB meetings
- (d) Recent issues of HAPPENINGS

(e) Draft/final agendas of upcoming meetings and draft/final minutes of past meetings.

(2) SAB Listserver - By subscribing to the free SAB Listserver, you will automatically receive copies of all Federal Register notices announcing SAB meetings, together with brief descriptions of the topics to be covered at the meetings. These notices will be e-mailed to you within 24-hours of their publication in the Federal Register.

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Phone: (202) 564-4543

Email: tillery.priscilla@epa.gov

or

by faxing your request to

(202) 501-0256.

BON MOT

..An elderly Floridian called 911 on her cell phone to report that her car has been broken into. She is hysterical as she explains her situation to the dispatcher: "They've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator!" she cried. The dispatcher said, "Stay calm.



An officer is on the way." A few minutes later, the officer radios in.

"Disregard." He says. "She got in the back-seat by mistake."